YOUR NONPROFIT, COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1997



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Fall Festival Fundraiser for FES

by Kenya Hoffart

This time last year, excitement filled the air as Fairview Elementary's PTA prepared for its annual Fall Festival. Students were selling tickets for several amazing raffle baskets, food vendors were getting ready to serve up yummy treats, games were being organized, decorations were being perfected, and it was almost time to celebrate a new season and a new school year while raising money for the kids at FES.

This year, things are different. While we cannot gather to celebrate, we can still support the fantastic students and families at Fairview Elementary. The PTA has organized an online fundraiser so FES families, friends and community members can contribute any amount of their choosing. All donations are tax deductible, as the PTA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit. Funds raised will help the PTA continue to assist with student needs, purchase technology, maintain the school garden, purchase books and much more.

Donate online/sponsor info fespta.memberhub.store

Donate by mail

FFS-PTA

Fairview Elementary 1355 Charlotte Highway Fairview, NC 28730

Updates

facebook.com/ fairviewelementaryPTA

Questions?

ptafairviewelementary@gmail.com



The kickoff for the fundraiser will be Friday, October 9. Updates will be available on the FES-PTA Facebook page. You can watch Freddy, the FES mascot, celebrate as we feather his nest. Kim Matyskiela, VP of fundraising said, "We have many needs in our school and raising funds to support those needs is a vital role the PTA plays." She suggests you think about what you would have spent at the Fall Festival and consider donating that amount to the "Funds for FES" fundraiser.

Local businesses can still be sponsors. Sponsorships offer many perks, including playground banners, social media mentions and yearbook recognition. See the box at left to get more info and to contact the PTA.

We thank the community in advance for its support. Go Cardinals!

REGISTER TO



If voting on Election Day (Nov. 3), you must register by Oct. 9. With early voting (Oct. 15-31), you can register the same day. See our Election Guide, pgs 16-17

DON'T FORGET! GET YOUR FLU SHOT!

Wanted: More Old Barns in Fairview

by Clark Aycock

We got a good initial

response to our request for info on local barns. Thanks to Margaret Caldwell, Charles Schoof, Kathy Bailey and Gary Motley. Please keep the tips coming.

We'd like to learn as much as we can about these old buildings. In order to do that, we need help from our readers. Get in touch with me if you have any historical information about an old barn in our community or if you have some free time and would like to assist on this



Kathy Bailey told us about this barn on her Garren Creek Road property. She believes it was built in the 1880s as the barn accompanying the original log cabin, which has been renovated and added onto several times over the years. She's very interested to learn more about it, and so are we. (Photo by Dana Irwin)

project, especially if you have expertise in architearly construction or researching deeds or history. It will be a fun and rewarding endeavor to document our old barns.

You can email me at copy@fairviewtowncrier.com or call or text 828-771-6983.

Happy Halloween!

Like almost everything else, COVID-19 has affected plans for Halloween this year. The *Crier* contacted the local organizations and churches who usually hold Halloween activities, and the ones we heard back from, such as Spring Mountain Community Center and Fairview Baptist Church, had to cancel their events for everyone's safety.

As a small consolation, we thought we'd provide a fun Halloween activity for adults and kids alike. We've hidden the Halloween icons shown below in this issue. See if you can find them all! (Answers on back page.)

















Get Copies of the Crier in Gerton



Gerton residents and vacation rental owners who want to keep their guests informed about what's going on in our community don't have to drive down the mountain anymore. Copies of the Crier can now be picked up at Studio 74-A in the Upper Hickory Nut Gorge Community Center. See page 23 for the address and hours of this new business.

The Fairview Town Crier P. O. Box 1862 Fairview, NC 28730

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Postal Patron Fairview, NC 28730

OCTOBER 6 (TUESDAY)

Prostate Cancer Support Group

7 pm. Medical professional speakers when available. Free, via Zoom. wncprostate@gmail.com or 419-4565.

OCTOBER 10 (SATURDAY)

Old Fairview Sharon Church Fundraiser

3–5 pm. Proceeds will help to restore the old church. BBQ, slaw, baked beans, rolls, cakes, can drinks, water. Everyone welcome. Donations appreciated. Sunday services at 11 am. Call 628-1568 for more information. 291 Sharon Rd., Fairview.

OCTOBER 12 (MONDAY)

Fairview Area Art League

10 am. The group will be meeting virtually via Zoom to share art inspirations and projects. Email Paula.entin@gmail.com for more information and the Zoom link.

OCTOBER 17 (SATURDAY)

New Moon Flea Market

8 am–12 pm. In their parking lot. Shop or sell. \$10 to set up a table. For details, call 222-2289. 1508 Charlotte Hwy., Fairview.

OCTOBER 18 (SUNDAY)

Ethical Humanist Meeting

2:30–4 pm. "Rooting Out Racism: Ethical Mission 2020 & Beyond" via Zoom. Connection info at EHSAsheville.org. All are welcome to attend. For more information, call 687-7759.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Animal Haven Anniversary

Even though it's their 20th annivesary, Animal Haven will not be holding its annual fundraiser. They are asking supporters to remember the 77 animals currently residing at the farm by making a donation as if we were partying together for them. 299-1635 or animalhavenofasheville.org.

Fire Department Fundraiser

Throughout October, Smokey & the Pig will be selling special BBQ plates to raise funds for the Fairview Fire Department. Every Sunday from 11am–4pm, stop by to lend your support. Plates will include BBQ, beans, slaw and a bun for \$10. Call ahead to avoid waiting. There will be a 50/50 raffle and gift baskets to win. Smokey & the Pig is located at 913 Charlotte Hwy. Donations can also be dropped off there, at the Fire Department, to Debbie at the Fairview Post Office or mailed to 1586 Charlotte Highway,

Fairview, NC 28730. Make checks payable to "FVFD."

Spring Mountain Comm. Center

- Meeting rooms are no longer for rent, due to COVID regulations.
 Picnic pavilion rentals are still under consideration. For bookings, call 778-0279 or visit springmtncc.com.
- The Berry Pickers Bluegrass Jam has resumed outdoors under the picnic pavilion every Tuesday at 7 pm.
- Yoga with Sabrina has resumed outdoors on Thursdays at 6:15 pm. Suggested donation \$5–10. Contact Sabrina at 243-8432.

Trinity Food Pantry

The pantry would like the community to know that they are open every Tuesday from 9 am–12 pm. For more information, call the church at 628-1188. 646 Concord Rd., Fletcher, in the back of the church grounds (follow the signs).

Woof in the Woods

Advanced training class starts on October 25. For information, call 222-2222 or go to woofinthewoods.com. 1451 Charlotte Hwy., Fairview.

Masks are mandated in North Carolina in all public areas where social distancing is not possible.

IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT

The Fairview Town Crier is a 501 (c) (3) company that publishes a monthly community newspaper. Twelve issues per year are delivered free on or about the first of every month to 8,900+ households. Distribution is limited to Fairview, Gerton, and contiguous parts of Reynolds and Fletcher, North Carolina. The Fairview Town Crier is located at 1185H Charlotte Highway, Fairview, North Carolina 28730; mailing address is PO Box 1862, Fairview, North Carolina 28730. Subscriptions may be purchased for \$30 per year and will be mailed First Class postage on or about the first of each publication month. Visit fairviewtowncrier.com for details or to order online.

Editorial Policy: *The Fairview Town Crier* reserves the right to refuse any advertising or editorial submission deemed inappropriate for the tone and style of the publication. A best effort has been made to verify legitimacy of information received and published. Views expressed in columns and/or articles do not represent those of *The Fairview Town Crier*.

Submissions: Announcements, community news, upcoming events, personal notices, letters, etc. will be published free as space allows. Email to copy@fairviewtowncrier.com. For staff directory, contacts and additional information, please see back page.



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31 ACRES, GORGEOUS 360° VIEWS FROM LONG, LEVEL RIDGE, TRAILS THROUGHOUT, creek, total wilderness and privacy, yet just 25 minutes to Asheville. Owner Financing Available! \$300,000 MLS# 3155768



4,600 SF, 1.4 acres \$375,000, 7,600 SF, 1.4 acres \$575,000, Both **COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS ON 2.87 LEVEL ACRES** \$875,000! *MLS#3597595* OWNER SERIOUS!

UPDATES

Library Buildings Will Open Soon

All library buildings will soon open to the public for grab-and-go access. As of publication time, we do not have an opening date, so stay tuned to the library's website and Facebook pages. In the meantime, curbside operating hours and computer appointments will continue as usual.

Curbside Pickup Hours

Tuesdays 1–5 pm, Thursdays 10 am–2 pm, Saturdays 1–5 pm

WiFi and New Picnic Tables

Check out our new picnic tables located on the grounds of the library. They are a great place to get out of the house and relax, work or study on our beautiful fall days. We thank the Buncombe County Parks and Recreaction department for loaning them to us. Our free WiFi is accessible 24/7 in the parking lot of Fairview Library.

Picture Book Bundles

Not sure what to read to your kids? Request a Librarian's Choice Picture Book Bundle.

The bundles will have 10 of our favorite picture books, selected by a Buncombe County librarian. You can check out the bundle with your library card and return it to our book drops when you're done. We have plenty of bundles ready to go, and we can fill these requests for you when you come to curbside pickup. There

is no need to place these on hold ahead of time.

We also have a few other readymade kids book bundles that you can ask for on the spot. Examples include chapter books, easy readers, graphic novels, etc.

BookFix

Do you miss browsing the library's shelves? Let our librarians help with Book-Fix. Call or email us (250-6484 or fairview. library@buncombecounty.org) to have our librarians put together a bundle of up to 15 items to meet your interests and needs. When your bundle is ready, you can pick it up during curbside service hours.

Storytime Anytime

We have a collection of stories you can listen to anytime on our Storyline. Just call 250-KIDS (5437) and hear a story read by your favorite librarian. We have stories in English that change on a regular basis. You can also find all the stories on our library webpage at buncombecounty.org/library.

Magazines

Magazines are now available for checkout during curbside pickup hours. Magazines go out on a first-come, first-serve basis so there's no need to reserve ahead of time. Just come to curbside pickup and let us know you're here for a magazine.

Magazines can be checked out for three weeks, and there is no limit on the number of magazines you can check out.

Census 2020

You can respond to the census online. Libraries offer public computers and free internet access to help make sure you're counted. On Wednesdays and Fridays, you can make an appointment to use one of the libraries' computers. You can also get free Wi-Fi in any library parking lot if you'd like to use your own device.

Give us a call or shoot us an email, and we'll be happy to help you find a way to complete your census form online.

PROGRAMS

StoryWalk Continues

StoryWalk is an innovative and delightful way for children—and adults—to enjoy reading and the outdoors at the same time. Our next story, *Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes*, by Eric Litwin will be going up soon. In addition to walking and reading, you will also learn fun facts and participate in fun activities as you go.

Evening Book Club

October 20 at 7 pm

We'll be reading and discussing on Zoom The Poisoner's Handbook: Murder and the Birth of Forensic Medicine in Jazz Age New York by Deborah Blum.

"The Poisoner's Handbook is that rare nonfiction book that has something for everyone, whether you are a true-crime aficionado, a political-history buff, a science geek or simply a fan of well-written

narrative suspense." (BookPage)

The Book Club meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm. Email jaime. mcdowell@buncombecounty.org if you would like more information or would like to attend one of our discussions.

Future Book Club Titles

November—*Kingdom of Needle and Bone* by Mira Grant

December—*The Dearly Beloved* by Cara Wall

January—The Sacred Depths of Nature by Ursula Goodenough

February—Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens

March—Pride of Baghdad by Brian K. Vaughan

April—On the Plain of Snakes by Paul Theroux

Library services are changing frequently as we continue to adapt. Follow our Facebook

page or website for the latest information.

Jaime McDowell is the head librarian at Fairview Public Library. She can be reached at Jaime.McDowell@buncombecounty.org.

Connect with Us!



f @fairviewpubliclibrary







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Vote Republican

Election Day: Nov 3rd 6:30am - 7:30pm Early Voting: Oct 15th - Oct 31st

This election might just be the most important in a lifetime.
Your Vote Matters!!

The differences have never been this clear -

More Safety or Less Safety!

More Taxes or Less Taxes!

More Jobs or Less Jobs!

More Freedom or Less Freedom!

It's Important to vote the whole ticket this time!

Republican Sample Ballot

Please vote for ALL the Republican Candidates that appear on your ballot.

President	Donald J. Trump	Commissioner Chair	Robert Pressley
US Senate	Thom Tillis	Commission DI	Glenda Weinert
US House 11	Madison Cawthorn	Commission D2 Commission D3	Anthony Penland Joe Belcher
NC Governor	Dan Forest		
NC Lt. Gov.	Mark Robinson	NC Supreme Court J *3 Candidates for 3 seats	udicial Candidates
NC Att. Gen.	Jim O'Neill	Justice Paul Newby fo	or Chief Justice
NC Com. Agriculture	Steven Troxler	Tamara Barringer	
NC Com. of Insurance	Mike Causey	Judge Phil Berger, Jr.	
NC Sec. Of State	E. C. Sykes	NC Court of Appeals *5 Candidates for 5 seats	
NC Sec. Of Labor	Josh Dobson	Judge Jeff Carpenter	
NC State Auditor	Anthony Street	Judge W. Fred Gore	
NC State Treasurer	Dale Folwell	Judge Chris Dillon	
NC Sup. Of Public Ins.	Catherine Truitt		e
NC Senate 48	Chuck Edwards	Judge Jefferson Griff	ın
NC Senate 49	Bob Penland	Judge April C. Wood	
NC House 114	Tim Hyatt	Buncombe County Sc	hool Board
NC House 115	Mark Crawford	Mark Watman, Everet	tt D. Pitillo
NC House 116	Eric Burns	and Amy Churchill	

Early Voting Locations

OCT. 15-30: MON-FRI 8AM-7:30PM; SAT-SUN: 10AM-3PM SAT, OCT 31 (LAST DAY): 8AM-3PM

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER 1357 Charlotte Hwy., Fairview

ASHEVILLE MALL (Old McAllister's entrance/ next to Old Navy) 3 S. Tunnel Rd, Asheville

ASHEVILLE OUTLET MALL (Next to Levi's Store)

800 Brevard Rd., Asheville

FIRE DEPARTMENT 510 Bee Tree Rd., Swannanoa

BLACK MOUNTAIN LIBRARY 105 N. Dougherty St.,

Black Mountain

DR. WESLEY GRANT

SR. CENTER 285 Livingston St., Asheville ENKA-CANDLER LIBRARY

1404 Sand Hill Rd., Candler HARRAH'S

CHEROKEE CENTER 87 Haywood St., Asheville

LAND OF SKY

REGIONAL COUNCIL
339 New Leicester Hwy.,

Asheville LEICESTER COMMUNITY CENTER

2979 New Leicester Hwy., Leicester REYNOLDS VILLAGE

50 N. Merrimon Ave., #107, Asheville

SOUTH BUNCOMBE LIBRARY 260 Overlook Rd., Asheville

TURTLE CREEK SHOPPING CENTER 23 Turtle Creek Dr., Asheville

UNCA CAMPUS

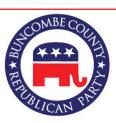
1 University Hts., Asheville WEST ASHEVILLE

COMMUNITY CENTER 970 Haywood Rd., Asheville

WEAVERVILLE TOWN HALL

30 S. Main St., Weaverville

828-253-5800 18G Regent Park Blvd (near Sams Club) Asheville, NC



Paid for by the Blue Ridge Republican Women's Club!

Mary Jane "Polly" King Justice

ary Jane "Polly" King was born near Edneyville in Buncombe (now Henderson) County on November 13, 1819. She was the daughter of Hiram King (December 25, 1794-August 3, 1891) and his first wife Nancy Jones (December 10, 1797-February 21, 1856). Hiram King was a well-educated man for his day. He appears to have been a man of more wealth than most in the area.

Hiram and Nancy had 14 children, with Mary Jane being the first or second. Though Hiram could read and write, he never taught Mary Jane to do either. She grew up a typical mountain girl on the frontier.

She married at 16 in 1835 to John Hiram Justice (born 1816). His nickname was "Peace Maker" because he seldom lost his temper, tried to get along with everyone, and tried to get others to get along and settle their differences. Compared to today, 16 may seem very young to get married, but in 1835 the average life expectancy was around 42. People felt they had to get married and have children early in order to see them reach adulthood. Polly was said to be a "medium-sized woman with stern, piercing eyes and she was blunt, determined and had no time for frivolities." She feared no man or beast.

Her first-born child, a boy, was delivered without a doctor. She was worried because the umbilical cord of the boy refused to heal. The family said she had a dream one night in which God appeared and told her to go

into the forest and search for certain herbs. She was to dig up the roots of these plants and to take the bark off certain trees. She was to brew these roots and bark and concoct a medicine to apply to the running sore that was rotting away her son's navel. A few days later, the sore, which had been growing worse daily, had completely healed.

She began to feel that God had called her to help heal the physical and mental suffering of her neighbors and people of the area. So, she devoted all her spare time acquiring knowledge about herbs and making medicine. She could not read, but her husband could. They would sit by the fire at night, and he would read medical books to her. There were no drugstores and little medicine. Doctors were rare. Polly started making house calls on horseback. She was a skilled rider and rode using a sidesaddle, customary for women at the time. Her husband killed a bear and used its hide to make a soft covering to go over her saddle. She carried her medicines and medical instruments in her saddlebags. People began to call her "Dr. Polly."

Dr. Polly was always ready to go to the aid of the sick no matter the time, weather, or distance. She traveled around Ednevville and Fruitland, but also across Bearwallow Mountain to Gerton. She traveled into northern Polk County and across the top of Sugar Loaf Mountain to the valleys.

Usually, a lone woman would not travel these distances, especially at night. She became a well-known figure, riding through the coves and valleys of the mountains. She rode self-assuredly, smoking homegrown tobacco in her long-stemmed clay pipe.

She rode many horses over the years, but her favorite was a large black stallion. No one could saddle and bridle that horse except for Polly and her husband. In April 1865, General Stoneman, a leader of General Sherman's cavalry, came through Henderson County, stealing all the best horses for Sherman's soldiers. He came to the Justice home and saw the black stallion. None of his soldiers could put a bridle on the horse. One of Stoneman's men put a gun to John

Justice's head and told him to put a bridle on the horse or he would kill him. John Justice reluctantly put a bridle on the horse and led it out to the soldiers. Rumor has it that during the first battle in which it took part, the horse dumped the soldier and escaped.

John was 85 when he died on February 21, 1901. "Dr. Polly" was 83 when she died on January 12, 1904. Both are buried in the King Cemetery with her parents.

See photos of Dr. Polly and her husband at fairviewtowncrier.com/links.

Bruce Whitaker documents Fairview area genealogy. To get in touch with him, contact the Crier at copy@fairviewtowncrier.com or 828-771-6983 (call/text).

John and Polly Justice's 14 Children

- 1. James King Justice, born in what is now Henderson County, November 13, 1837; died in Raleigh, Wake County, January 1, 1862.
- 2. Anthorit Ann Justice, born in what is now Henderson County, 1839; died May 9, 1859.
- 3. Nancy S. Justice, 1841-May 9, 1859.
- 4. Charlotte Tealue Justice, January 10, 1844-August 5, 1921. Married Burgess Lamb.
- 5. Francis E. Justice, November 4, 1845-December 27, 1899. Married a Clark.
- 6. Hiram Dyer Justice, June 29, 1848-February 25, 1927.
- 7. Rev. John Jones Justice, September

- 10, 1850-1927. Married Mary P. (1852 - 1884).
- 8. Dicea Elizabeth "Dicy" Justice, May 16, 1853-August 30, 1924; married William R. Hyder (May 15, 1853-January 6, 1930).
- 9. Harriet Catherine Justice, November 17, 1855–July 8, 1927. Married G. R. Hyder (April 11, 1857-May 7, 1933).
- 10. Baby boy (1858-June 10, 1859).
- 11. William Knox Washington Justice, July 4, 1860-1950.
- 12. Mary F.E. Justice, 1861-August 11, 1865.
- 13. D. H. P. Justice (1864-1864).
- 14. Augustus Merrimon Justice, 1868-January 15, 1869.





Can Class 4 Laser Help Me?

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- IMPROVED BLOOD SUPPLY
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Class 4 laser often brings immediate pain relief and speeds healing, even when all other therapies have failed.



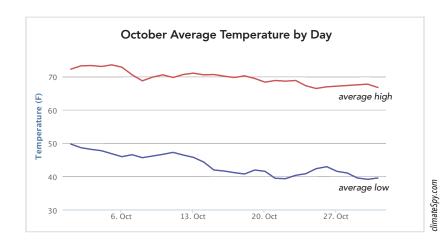
Time to Take Out that Warmer Coat

he weather in WNC is usually quite variable in every season, and we should expect to have several periods of very cold weather each winter. This usually appears when we have a direct flow of arctic air from central and northern Canada. We also get milder Pacific air coming each winter. Mix that in with Gulf of Mexico moisture and we could have either rain or snow from any storm. If we do have a cold winter this year, I hope we have more of a snow cover to go with it, which acts as an insulating blanket and keeps the subsurface warmer.

In October, the turn to fall becomes even more apparent, with the average high dropping from 72 at the beginning of the month to 64 by month's end. The average daily low drops from 50 at the beginning of the month to 40 by the end, when we

QUESTION of the **MONTH**

Aeroelastic flutter was responsible for a historic weather-related disaster in November 1940. Can you figure out what it was before next month's column?



usually see several frosty mornings.

The average date of the first autumn frost is October 23 for Asheville, October 17 for Black Mountain, October 9 for Bent Creek and October 12 for Hendersonville. To get the extreme ranges of frost dates, add or subtract 14 days from the average. In Fairview, our dates run pretty close to those for Bent Creek. Deeper valleys will tend to have frost and freezing conditions later in the spring and earlier in the fall compared to the surrounding terrain.

Enjoy the fall colors this month, as they won't last when we slowly fade into late fall. Elevation and weather are the biggest factors in the color show. Leaves begin their color change on the highest peaks in late September

GET LOCAL FORECASTS AND WEATHER!

Go to ashevilleweather.com and click on "Fairview."

and early October and gradually work down to the lowest elevations by early November. See fairviewtowncrier.com/links for in-depth information on the science behind fall colors.

One of the indicators of what to expect for the upcoming winter is to see what El Niño or La Niña is doing. Generally, in North Carolina, an El Niño event is often associated with cooler, wetter conditions and an increased chance of winter weather. Conversely, a La Niña event, which is more likely this winter, often

WEATHER WONDER

What is the earliest autumn date to record our first 32-degree temperature?

Believe it or not, the earliest fall occurrence of 32 at the Asheville airport was on September 30, 1967 when the actual low temperature fell to 30. It was probably a couple of degrees colder in Fairview.

brings warmer and drier conditions. The impacts of these events on our weather are most prominent during the winter. In terms of temperature, we tend to be a bit below average in an El Niño winter. In terms of precipitation across western North Carolina, we tend to be closer to or a bit above normal. It tends to be even wetter just to our south and east. More on El Niño and La Niña impacts can be found at the NOAA site (find the link at fairviewtowncrier.com/links.)



Meteorologist Tom Ross managed the Climate Database Modernization Program at the National Climatic Data Center.



"We have also a more sure word of

PROPHECY

whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a

LIGHT

that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts". (2 Peter 1:19)

Let the Bible prophecy enlighten you on the past, present, and future world events.

REVELATION Undaling

Starting: SATURDAY, OCT. 17 • 7:00 PM

Continuing: Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

Seminar Auditorium

57 Cane Creek Circle • Fairview, NC

FREE Admission
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For more information: Text "REVELATION" to 31996

Topics to Include:

CHAOS — COVID-19 and Cultural Collapse

ESCAPE — The Bible's Prophetic Land of Freedom

REVOLUTION — Protests and the Cause of Suffering

DESTROYED — The Power of Sin Broken

CONSPIRACY — The Grace Deception

FORGOTTEN — A Day to Remember

UNMASKED — The Antichrist Revealed

SURVIVOR — How to Prepare for the End

TRANSFORMERS — Revelation's Prophetic Powers

ENDGAME — The Mark of the Beast

Who Should You Vote For?

BY PAT STONE

You should vote for the person you think best agrees with your views and will do the best job of leading our country. That's up to you, and I respect your choice.

What else should you vote for? I'd like to make a suggestion.

These are volatile political times. There's a lot—a lot—of cultural anger in the air. I know that I buy into it too many times. And I'll admit it: in a way, it feels good to be angry with those other people (the ones on the other side politically). There's something perversely satisfying in getting riled up against them. Those people are acting irrationally. They are stirring up discontent. Their thoughts are mean, shortsighted and wrong. They are acting hateful. They need to stop.

Do you ever think that way? I do. Can we do anything to tone down such anger? Why, ves.

First, let's take a careful look at the news media. These days, the media on both the right and left seems to try unceasingly to stir up folks. Insults, harangues, one-sided arguments, scorn and even humor are all used to demean the other side. So, let's try to be aware of biased reporting and look for more balanced content instead.

Second, let's take a careful look at



66

Let s try to treat everyone as brothers and sisters, and work for the good of all. Let s vote for that by the way we live.

99

ourselves. If I want the other side to stop acting hateful toward my side, the first thing I need to do—of course!—is to stop acting hateful toward theirs. I need to be what I want to see. (I'm afraid I need some work on this one. I'm like the British writer/theologian G.K. Chesterton. He was once asked what's wrong with the world. His answer: "I am.")

Really Listen

And who knows? It's possible that there just may be some good reasons for the opinions of people on the other side. Is it possible to try to figure out why they think that way or to listen—really listen—without the entire time thinking of our rebuttal?

To seek a middle ground? To (gasp!) agree to disagree without thinking the other is stupid, ignorant or bad? Or to just care for someone no matter their politics?

Of course it is. Let's do that: look for the positive and work for the good every day. Do you want a good example of media that does exactly that?

You're holding it in your hands. The Town Crier has, since its inception, focused on sharing the good work people do in this community. And there's plenty of it. The Fairview Fire Department. Food for Fairview. The Spring Mountain Community Center. Root Cause Farm. And Food Lion, Angels of Fairview, school parent groups, scout groups, churches,

teachers, volunteer coaches and more. There are many, many people and groups here who reach out and help each other.

There's an African proverb that says, "When I saw you from afar, I thought you were a monster. When you got closer, I thought you were just an animal. When you got even closer, I saw that you were a human. But when we were face to face, I realized that you were my brother."

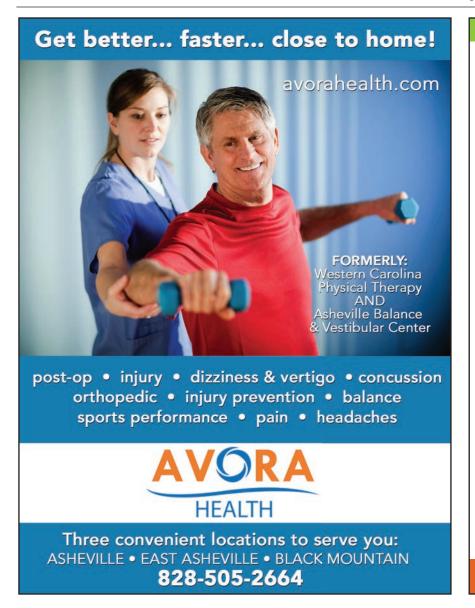
Let's try to treat everyone as brothers and sisters, and work for the good of all. Let's vote for that—by the way we live.

A Personal Note

My wife, Becky, and I are an interracial couple. I have, not surprisingly, opinions about the Black Lives Matter movement and racial justice in the US. I won't share those here. That's not what this article—or the Town Crier—is about.

I would, however, like to say this. We moved here in 1978. Do you know how many acts of overt discrimination we have faced in Fairview in the 42 years we've lived here? Go ahead and take a guess. The answer is none. Thank you, Fairview. Thank you.

Pat Stone is editor of GreenPrints, "The Weeder's Digest," the only magazine that shares the personal side of gardening. He is also on the board of the Fairview Town Crier.









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Living Murphy's Law in 2020

hen it rains, it pours, and I don't just mean the weather we've been having since mid-July. This has been a difficult year. There's COVID-19, which has impacted everyone around the world, including our own community. In our home, we've also had one of those years—if it can break, go wrong, or result in the most difficult option, it will. We all have these periods during of our lives, but with everything else going on, this has seemed much more frustrating than other times of my life.

In the spring, we lost our old commercial mower. We have specific requirements for a mower on the farm, so finding a replacement was difficult. Since we have very little level ground, we can't use a riding mower or the kind where you stand on the back. We can't do a zero-turn radius because of plant spacing—and that removed a lot of the available options. We managed to limp along the last few seasons with the old mower because we couldn't find a new one within our budget and with the specs we need. This year, the decision was taken out of our hands. So, we bit the bullet and bought a new Toro with all the modern perks our 20-year-old mower didn't have.

We have two farm trucks, both F150s from 2005. One is a 4-wheel drive. They

both have more than 200,000 miles. They've both been great vehicles, but they are no longer like new. Both needed front-end rebuilds, one got new tires, and the other had new brakes installed. Those are all basic repairs for trucks of that age and use, but it was expensive. It was better to keep them going than to replace either or both for sure, though I know replacements are not too far in the future.

Creative Repairs

We've had to make some creative repairs to our large chest freezer that we use to initially store berries fresh from the fields. Since we pick long hours and our commercial kitchen with a walk-in freezer is located in downtown Asheville, we keep that large chest freezer in a barn to store the berries until we have enough—and the time—to make a trip to town. It's not new. and we've been dealing with a deteriorating seal for about a year. It finally blew during blueberry season and all the insulation in the freezer door fell out as well. We checked into buying a new one, but couldn't find anything used or new in our price and size range.

With a little ingenuity, Walter devised a repair that will hopefully keep us going until we can find a replacement. The "only" cost was some foam insulation

We all have these periods during of our lives, but with everything else going on, this has seemed much more frustrating than other times of my life.

board and about two days' worth of work during our picking season.

The final straw—at least, I sincerely hope it is—came when the water heater blew in early August. It came with the house when we moved in 20 years ago. Luckily, I was home when it happened and got the water main turned off fairly quickly, which meant that only the 50 gallons in the tank leaked out all over our kitchen hallway and bedroom closet. Most of that water went down the main duct for the furnace since the furnace and water heater share a cubby closet together.

So that's been our 2020 so far! I have to say that we've been lucky. We're not falling into debt because of COVID-19. Our sales are drastically down, but we're still

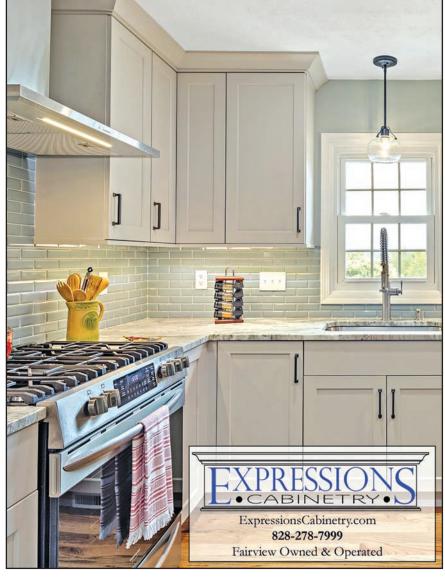
plugging along. We now have a mower that should last us (with maintenance and care) until Walter's too old to be using a commercial-size piece of machinery. We have two trucks that are safe for driving and should last us a few more years (or at least until we recover from the COVID-depressed economy).

Sustainable Changes

We have a freezer system that, even if we don't find a new chest freezer, should be sustainable on a seasonal basis. We really don't need the huge chest freezer most of the year. And we got really lucky with the water heater in that we didn't have to replace flooring. We just had to replace some insulation and a piece of duct work under the house. A wonderful friend who is a plumber's assistant came out on a Friday night and helped us put in the new water heater in exchange for a ride to pick up his car at the local repair shop. We have a water heater that we hope will last us another 20 years, at which point it will be time to clean the closet out again anyway.

Wendy Harrill is co-owner of Imladris Farm, a sustainable supplier of jams, jellies, and preserves made from locally sourced fruit. Imladrisfarm.com.





Why You Should Probably Stop Eating Wheat

oday's hybridized wheat contains hard-to-digest proteins that aren't found in the parent plant.

Wheat- and grain-based foods are all around us. We love our bagels, pasta, bread, and breakfast cereals. For many, the thought of eliminating these staples from our diets seems wholly unreasonable, if not ludicrous. But a growing number of people are switching to wheat-free diets—and for good reason. As science is increasingly showing, eating wheat increases the potential for a surprising number of health problems.

Without a doubt, wheat plays a major role in our diets. It supplies about 20 percent of the total food calories worldwide and is a national staple in most countries.

But as is well known, some people, such as those with celiac disease, need to stay away from wheat. The problem is that their small intestine is unable to properly digest gluten, a protein found in grains. Wheat is being increasingly blamed for the onset of health conditions such as obesity, heart disease and a host of digestive problems, including the dramatic rise in celiac-like disorders.

So, what's going on? And why is everybody suddenly blaming wheat?

The answer, it appears, has to do with a whole lot of nastiness that's present in



grain-based foods. Wheat raises blood sugar levels, causes immunoreactive problems, inhibits the absorption of important minerals and aggravates our intestines. And much of this may stem from the fact that wheat simply ain't what it used to be.

Hybridized Wheat

Today's wheat is a far cry from what it was 50 years ago. Back in the 1950s, scientists began crossbreeding wheat to make it hardier, shorter, and better growing. As cardiologist Dr. William Davis noted in his book, Wheat Belly, today's hybridized wheat contains sodium azide, a known toxin. It also goes through a gamma irradiation process during manufacturing.

Davis also points out that today's hybridized wheat contains novel proteins that aren't typically found in either the

parent or the plant, some of which are difficult for us to properly digest. Consequently, some scientists now suspect that the gluten and other compounds found in today's modern wheat is what's responsible for the rising prevalence of celiac disease, "gluten sensitivity," and other problems.

The problem is in how it's metabolized. According to Alessio Fasano, the Medical Director for The University of Maryland's Center for Celiac Research, no one can properly digest gluten. "We do not have the enzymes to break it down," he said in a recent interview.

Specifically, gliadin and glutenin (the two main forms of gluten) act as anti-nutrients that cause an immune response. They increase intestinal permeability, thus triggering systemic inflammation by the immune system, which can lead to any number of autoimmune diseases, including celiac rheumatoid arthritis, irritable bowel syndrome, central nervous system inflammation, brain fog, and more. And this also holds true for people who don't have celiac disease.

Gliadin, what scientists call the "toxic fraction of gluten," has also been implicated in gut permeability. When someone has an adverse reaction, it's because gliadin cross talks with our cells. This causes confusion and a leak in the small intestine, and the immune system

sees these proteins as an enemy and begins to attack.

Open Walls

The difference is that, in a normal person, the intestinal walls close back up, the small intestine becomes normal again, and the peptides remain in the intestinal tract and are simply excreted before the immune system notices them. In a person who reacts to gluten, the walls stay open as long as they are consuming gluten.

A recent study showed that nearly 1.8 million Americans have celiac disease and another 1.4 million are likely undiagnosed. And, surprisingly, another 1.6 million have adopted a gluten-free diet despite having no diagnosis.

In addition, it's estimated that about 18 million Americans have "non-celiac gluten sensitivity," which results in cramps and diarrhea.

This column is adapted from an article originally published on seeker.com. ©2020 Group Nine Media



Dr. Reilly is past president of the NC Chiropractic Association and team chiropractor for ACRHS since 1999. Call 628-7800 for your always-free consultation. fairviewdc.com.



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FOOD FOR FAIRVIEW JEFF COLE

Help Your Scattered Brain

ttention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a prevalent neurodevelopmental disorder in which parts of the brain develop more slowly than in typical brains. It primarily affects the executive function of the brain and leads to problems with inattention, impulsivity, self-regulation and hyperactivity. It also affects planning, organizing, prioritizing, memory, processing speed, and the ability to stay goal oriented, all of which can be disastrous when working or schooling from home.

Here are five ways to help your brain stayed focused in quarantine.

Practice Mindful Meditation. Start with a five-minute meditation and gradually work up to 15 to 20 minutes. While paying close attention to your thoughts, feelings and bodily sensations, focus on your breath as it moves in and out of your body. When interrupting thoughts present themselves, focus back on your breath. The end goal is to use this mindfulness throughout the day, allowing you to stay present, which will assist with focus and memory.

Exercise. Individuals suffering from ADHD typically have lower levels of brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF), which is an essential element in normal brain development that promotes healthy behaviors. Regular physical exercise has been shown to increase BDNF levels.

Physical activity also helps to improve executive function, working memory and impulse control. Start with 30 minutes of physical exercise per day.

Write Notes. Working memory, also known as "short-term" memory, is important for reasoning, decision-making, following a conversation and following multi-step directions. Research has shown that working memory is less efficient in individuals suffering from ADHD. You can use a notepad and calendar apps to remember important dates and appointments.

Keep a To-Do List. Low dopamine levels have been associated with individuals suffering from ADHD. When we experience even small amounts of success, such as checking items off a to-do list, our brains release dopamine, which is connected to feelings of pleasure, learning and motivation.

Play Memory Games. Starting with the letter A, come up with items that begin with each letter of the alphabet, remembering all items previously mentioned and continuing through to the end of the alphabet. This can be played using categories, such as names of people, movies or even geography.

Dr. Diana Tyler is an associate doctor of chiropractic at APEX Brain Centers, currently seeking post-graduate board certification in functional neurology. She can be reached at ApexBrainCenters.com or 708-5274.

More Clients and More Volunteers

he pantry continues to operate due to the dedicated volunteers who are there every week. Without their efforts, the pantry would not be able to provide assistance to the food-deficient residents of Fairview. We have had approximately 40 new clients sign up since March. Thankfully, we have had two new volunteers come onboard in the past several months. Another recent volunteer has expressed interest in becoming the assistant pantry manager, and there is another new volunteer who started on September 14. A married couple currently working from home comes into the pantry on alternate Tuesday mornings to assist with distributing the Emergency Food Assistance Program. They even brought in their sons one Tuesday morning.

I'd like to thank the residents of Fairview, Arden, Asheville, Bearwallow and Fletcher for their continued support of the pantry, whether it's financial or donating your time

My thanks also go to Brush Creek Baptist Church, which collects nonperishable items in conjunction with their services every other Sunday. Church members bring the donations to the pantry in the early afternoon on Mondays.

We currently have two locations along Charlotte Highway to drop off nonperishable items: Americare Pharmacy, at

1185 Charlotte Highway, and the First Bank location, at 5 Olde Eastwood Village, Asheville, both of which are open Monday through Friday. First Bank will be collecting donations through the end of the year in their lobby. The Fairview Public Library is not currently available because of social distancing requirements.

Do not leave donations at the door of the pantry. Volunteers are only in the pantry Monday afternoons and Tuesday mornings, and we cannot accept donations at the pantry location on other days.

Jeff Cole is the Executive Director of Food For Fairview, which is a tax-exempt 501©(3) Corporation. For more information, please call 628-4322 or go to foodforfairview.org.

What to Donate

Personal care items, such as soap, shampoo, toilet paper, toothpaste and disposable diapers (any size).

Food and staple items, such as canned fruit and vegetables, kids' cereal, canned tuna, white or brown rice, macaroni and cheese, soup, canned and boxed meals, and peanut butter and jelly.

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Local Students Share Their Experience

A Hectic and Dull Combination



by Ellie Moran

I sat expectantly in my kitchen, surrounded by zucchini, potato chips and a lollipop. It was a strange

assortment of ingredients soon to form an even stranger dish, but I was aiming for fun, not edibility. I had organized this virtual "Chopped" event for the Society of Undergraduate Anthropologists. Everyone would have 30 minutes to cook a creative meal that incorporated a vegetable, potato product and candy.

Ten minutes after the event's start, I laughed in exasperation with my executive board. No eager chefs had arrived, not even our single RSVPer. Only a month before, our interest meeting drew dozens of recruits, an astonishing feat for an anthropology club. Using identical marketing tactics for this event, we drew zero. Who wants to attend yet another Zoom meeting after months of nothing but?

I am a junior at UNC-Chapel Hill, where a disastrous COVID-19 outbreak headlined international news. After only one week, we shut down campus and opened our laptops. Some students returned home, some holed up in apartments, and others applied to stay in dorms. Zoom became our virtual campus.

The decision to move online was necessary and (belatedly) responsible, but disappointing nonetheless. Online classes lack the social rewards of a traditional classroom. There is no pre-lecture chatter or visual validation when you speak. Because cameras are optional in all of my lectures,

I have never seen most of my classmates. In the beginning, many students chose to stream themselves, but as Zoom fatigue settled in, the checkerboard of videos went black. Now I spend class draped across my couch, bouncing on a yoga ball or making pancakes...in between note taking, of course.

There is a strong sense of disassociation. It doesn't feel like college. It feels like someone forgot to close a YouTube tab streaming TED Talks. Except these speakers are prone to rambling and keep assigning pesky essays. Group discussions are stunted. Professors can no longer stare down students until they speak up, and students in the midst of midterms can no longer muster the energy to respond. My professors admit to sharing our lack of motivation. Two even cancelled courses and went on research leave for fall.

Like academics, the social aspects of college look very different. It is difficult to engage with the UNC community as before. Although I video chat weekly with an international student from China and occasionally talk with friends, I miss the comfort of my campus bubble. It takes creativity and a strong online presence to stay connected. Like my own organization, many clubs and events have moved online.

So, what is college like in the era of coronavirus? For me, it is a strange combination of hectic and dull, but please take my report with a heap of salt. Remote learning, like the pandemic, impacts everyone differently. The virus demands a lot of mental energy, and I hope the coming months bring some relief. In the meantime, I will find some solace in pancakes and pajamas during class.

Forced to Adapt



by Andrew Dundas

I had a lot of hope when I returned to UNC-Chapel Hill this semester. Even though I joked with my

family that I'd be sent home in two weeks, it seemed to me that campus was rather safe from an outbreak. Social distancing was observed and masks were worn everywhere; the dining hall was entirely rethought, and my only in-person class had four students show up, as the rest tuned in via Zoom.

I planned my semester around being in Chapel Hill. I got a job and brainstormed subjects for my various journalism projects. I transferred last fall from A-B Tech, and I felt happy to be back in a place I had only just learned to call home.

I liked the academic setting. I liked my professors, many of whom had become mentors. I liked the botanical gardens within walking distance of my dorm and all the many museums of the Triangle.

I suppose those aren't the things that many of my peers like about college, though, as evidenced by the surge that sent us all home. A notice of new COVID-19 clusters came to my phone seemingly everyday during my second week on campus, alerts from the university that residents of another dorm had tested positive. It was the freshman dorms first, as well as frats and sororities. Stories of

parties, alcohol and a DIY waterslide spread among my classmates and friends. Yet never once did I hear of cases spreading in a dining hall or a classroom.

In my mind, the university failed not in the precautions it took but those it didn't. I don't know how you get college students to choose not to socialize, but that was the only way we could've stayed on campus.

I am disappointed. I only had two years to be at Carolina, and now I'll be lucky to experience one cumulative one. But I also recognize the opportunity in being sent home. I've been able to save money and invest in a dream. In the next few weeks, I will buy a van and convert it into a home, one I hope will take me on many adventures after graduating in the spring. It's not a decision I would've made otherwise.

For all its ugliness, there is a beauty in this pandemic. It forces us all to adapt. The path of least resistance is quite difficult, allowing us to ask, "Is that the way I really want to go?" Changes in careers, education and social life lead us to question the value of what we had and whether we took it for granted or gave it too much. It is an opportunity to reset and redirect.

That doesn't change the fact that this is a time of struggle and pain for many. I wish the best for you all and I'm sorry for your losses. I have a lot of hope that it will all be better on the other side.



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Gray Styers

NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 7

NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 13

Chris Brooks

NC District Court Judge District 28 Seat 6

Andrea Dray

NC District Court Chief Judge District 28 Seat 7

Calvin Hill

NON PARTISAN OFFICES

Buncombe County Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor

Gary Higgins

Buncombe County Schools Board of Education At-larae

Amanda Simpkins

Buncombe County Schools Board of Education North Buncombe District

Ann B. Franklin

Buncombe County Schools Board of Education Owen District (You may vote for ONF)

Linda Tatsapaugh Margaret (Peggy) Buchanan

CITY OFFICES

Asheville City Council (You may vote for THREE)

Sandra Kilgore Rich Lee Sage Turner **Keith Young**

EARLY VOTING — OCTOBER 15-31

Vote at Fairview Community Center, 1357 Charlotte Highway

For a list of all 16 early voting locations and schedules visit: **VOTE.BUNCOMBEDEMS.ORG**

ELECTION DAY — NOVEMBER 3

Vote at your precinct polling site

Main (828) 274-4482 • info@buncombedems.org **■ ■ ■ ■ BuncombeDems**

Paid for by the Buncombe County Democratic Party.

Not endorsed by any candidate or candidate committee.



Voting 101

REGISTRATION

- Must be a US citizen and resident of NC who has lived in your voting county for at least 30 days.
- Must also be at least 18 years old.
- If convicted of a felony, your right to vote must have been restored.
- You cannot claim the right to vote in another state or county.

The deadline to register is October 9. After that, you may only vote through early voting (and <u>not</u> on Election Day).

How to register (or update your registration)

1. Fill out a registration form For online forms: ncsbe.gov/ Voter-Information/VR-Form. If you have Acrobat on your computer, you can fill out the form online and print it. Or print it and then fill it out.

Printed forms are available at county election board offices.

2. Mail the signed and completed form to: Election Services, PO Box 7468, Asheville, NC 28802-7468

North Carolina does not allow online voter registration.

College students

If you consider your school address to be your residence, you may register and vote in the county where the school is located.

FIND YOUR DISTRICT

To confirm or find your senate and house districts and to find your polling place, go to vt.ncsbe.gov/ RegLkup and enter your name, then click on your name on the next screen. You will also find a sample ballot there. You can also call the county's voter registration specialist, Joyce Kanavel, at 250-4209.

EARLY VOTING

The one-stop "in-person" absentee process permits voting at any designated location prior to election day. This may not be the same as your regular polling place.

Dates/times for all sites: October 15–31

Weekdays: 8 am-7:30 pm Saturday and Sunday: 10 am-3 pm October 31 (Saturday): 8 am-3 pm

Voter Info Center at Asheville Mall

You can register to vote, request an absentee ballot or vote during the early voting period at this location. In the Asheville Mall (3 South Tunnel Road, Asheville) near Dillard's.

Local early voting site

Fairview Community Center, 1357 Charlotte Highway, Fairview.

To find other sites, go to vt.ncsbe. gov/ossite and choose

"Buncombe" in the dropdown.

To find where to vote after early voting ends, see the "Find Your District" section above.

ABSENTEE VOTING

For active duty military, their family members, and US citizens living abroad, go to FVAP.gov and follow the absentee ballot instructions to receive a ballot.

All others may request an absentee ballot for any reason as long as they complete a request form and return it by one of the following ways.

Mail: PO Box 7468 Asheville, NC 28802 Scan/email: absenteeballot. request@buncombecounty.org **Fax**: (828) 250-6262

In person: 77 McDowell Street,

Asheville

Once your form has been received, an absentee ballot will be mailed. Absentee ballots must be received by October 27 at 5 pm. (A voter's near relative may also request an absentee ballot at the 77 McDowell Street office.)

IDENTIFICATION

You do not need ID for absentee voting, early voting or voting on Election Day.

DO YOU LIVE IN HENDERSON COUNTY?

For our readers who live in Gerton, please visit hendersoncountync.gov elections for more information.



PRECINCT 37.1 Garren Creek Fire Department

10 Flat Creek Road Fairview

PRECINCT 38.2 Cane Creek Middle School 570 Lower Brush Creek Road Sethar

PRECINCT 38.3

Trinity of Fairview Church 646 Concord Road Fletcher

PRECINCT 39.2 Fairview Fire Department

1586 Charlotte Highway Fairview

PRECINCT 39.3

Asheville

Fairview Community Center 1357 Charlotte Highway Fairview

PRECINCT 60.2 Reynolds Fire Department1 Charles A Lytle Lane

PRECINCT 60.4

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church 801 Charlotte Highway Fairview

PRECINCT 57.1 Skyland Fire Department (Bishop Substation)

310 Williams Road, Fletcher

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★ ★ 2020 General Election Voting Guide ★ ★ ★

CANDIDATES AND RACES APPEARING ON FAIRVIEW-AREA BALLOTS

The candidates and races below should be the ones you see on your ballot. However, we do have readers who live in Asheville and Henderson County, so yours may look different. See the "Find Your District" section on the facing page to get information about candidates in your area.

Campaign websites have been provided where available so that you can research candidates further.

Do Your Homework

You can research races and candidates at the following websites, which all claim to be nonpartisan: Votesmart.org, Ballotpedia.org, or League of Women Voters (lwvab.org)

PARTY INFO

Buncombe County Democrats buncombedems.org 274-4482 facebook.com/BuncombeDems

Buncombe County Republicans buncombegop.org 253-5800 facebook.com/buncombegop

Buncombe County Libertarians Ipbuncombe.com 508-1248 facebook.com/LPBuncombe

PARTY DESIGNATION:

(C)ONSTITUTION (D)EMOCRAT (G)REEN (L)IBERTARIAN (R)EPUBLICAN *Incumbent Candidates are listed alphabetically by last name.

NATIONAL

US PRESIDENT

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, D joebiden.com
DON BLANKENSHIP, C
donblankenship.com
HOWIE HAWKINS, G howiehawkins.us
JO JORGENSEN, L jo20.com
DONALD J. TRUMP*, R donaldjtrump.com

US SENATE

SHANNON BRAY, L shannonbray.us
CAL CUNNINGHAM, D calfornc.com
KEVIN E. HAYES, C hayesforussenate.com
THOM TILLIS*, R thomtillis.com

US HOUSE 11

MADISON CAWTHORN, R
madisoncawthorn.com
MOE DAVIS, D moedavisforcongress.com
TRACEY DEBRUHL, L Search Facebook for
"DeBruhl For Congress"
TAMARA ZWINAK, G
twitter.com/ZwinakNC11

STATE

GOVERNOR

ROY COOPER*, D roycooper.com STEVEN J. DIFIORE, L stevenfornorthcarolina.com DAN FOREST, R danforest.com AL PISANO, C alpisanoforncgovernor.com

STATE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NC SENATE 48

BRIAN CASKEY, D briancaskey.com CHUCK EDWARDS*, R chuckedwardsnc.com

NC SENATE 49

JULIE MAYFIELD, D mayfieldforncsenate.com BOB PENLAND, R bobpenland.com

NORTH CAROLINA HOUSE 115

JOHN AGER*, D electjohnager.org MARK CRAWFORD, R No campaign website

LT. GOVERNOR

YVONNE LEWIS HOLLEY, D Yvonnelewisholley.com MARK ROBINSON, R markrobinsonfornc.com

NC ATTORNEY GENERAL

JIM O'NEILL, R jimoneillnc.com JOSH STEIN*, D joshstein.org

NC AUDITOR

ANTHONY WAYNE STREET, R streetfornc.com BETH A. WOOD, D bethwoodcampaign.com

NC COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

STEVE TROXLER*, R stevetroxler.com JENNA WADSWORTH, D jennawadsworth.com

NC COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

MIKE CAUSEY*, R mikecauseync.com WAYNE GOODWIN, D waynegoodwin.org

NC COMMISSIONER OF LABOR

JOSH DOBSON, R joshforlabor.com JESSICA HOLMES, D Jessicaholmesnc.com

NC SECRETARY OF STATE

ELAINE MARSHALL, D elainemarshall.com E.C. SYKES, R ecfornc.com

NC TREASURER

RONNIE CHATTERJI, D ronniechatterji.com DALE R. FOLWELL*, R dalefolwell.com

NC SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION JEN MANGRUM, D jenmangrumfornc.com CATHERINE TRUITT, R

catherinetruitt.com NORTH CAROLINA

SUPREME COURT

SEAT 1 (CHIEF JUSTICE)

CHERI BEASLEY*, D ChiefJusticeBeasley.com PAUL NEWBY, R PaulNewby.com

SEAT 2

PHIL BERGER JR., R PhilBergerJr.org LUCY INMAN, D LucyInmanForJustice.com

SEAT 4

TAMARA BARRINGER, R TamaraBarringer.com MARK DAVIS*, D JusticeMarkDavis.com

NORTH CAROLINA COURT OF APPEALS SEAT 4

TRICIA SHIELDS, D ShieldsForJudge.com APRIL C. WOOD, R JudgeWoodForCOA.com

SEAT 5

LORA CHRISTINE CUBBAGE, D CubbageForJudge.com FRED GORE, R JudgeFredGore.com

SEAT 6

CHRIS DILLON*, R JudgeChrisDillon.com GRAY STYERS, D StyersForJudge.com

SEAT 7

JEFF CARPENTER, R *ElectJeffCarpenter.com* REUBEN F. YOUNG*, D *KeepJudgeYoung.com*

SEAT 13

CHRIS BROOK*, D
KeepJudgeChrisBrook.com
JEFFERSON G. GRIFFIN, R JeffersonGriffin.com

NC DISTRICT 28 COURT JUDGES SEAT 6

ANDREA DRAY, D No campaign website

SEAT 7

CALVIN HILL, D No campaign website
These candidates are running unopposed.

COUNTY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CHAIRMAN

BROWNIE NEWMAN*, D brownienewman.com ROBERT PRESSLEY, R facebook.com/voterobertpressley

BUNCOMBE COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 2

JASMINE BEACH-FERRARA, D jasmineforbuncombe.org ANTHONY PENLAND, R anthonyfordistrict2.org

BUNCOMBE COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS

DREW REISINGER*, D drewfordeeds.org This candidate is running unopposed.

BUNCOMBE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUPERVISOR

(NONPARTISAN OFFICE)
ALAN DITMORE Search Facebook for "Elect
Alan Ditmore for Buncombe SWCD"
GARY HIGGINS No campaign website

BUNCOMBE COUNTY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

(NONPARTISAN OFFICE)

AT-LARGE AMANDA SIMPKINS MARK WATMAN

NORTH BUNCOMBE DISTRICT

ANN B. FRANKLIN*

OWEN DISTRICT

MARGARET (PEGGY) BUCHANAN* EVERETT D. PITTILLO LINDA TATSAPAUGH

ROBERSON DISTRICT
AMY CHURCHILL

See page 18 for more about the school board candidates.

Turn the Ballot Over! 2020 School Board Races

chool board races appear near the bottom of your ballot, but in importance they are right up there with the presidential race. Our kids are our future. What could matter more?

This year, four of the seven county Board of Education seats will appear on your ballot. This is important: even if you live in Fairview, you will vote for one person for each of the four positions. Candidates must live in the district they serve, but they run at-large in the county (excluding the Asheville City Schools catchment area). I am in the middle of my four-year term.

North Buncombe and Roberson

Ann Franklin, our chairperson, is running unopposed for a fourth term as the North Buncombe representative. Amy Churchill, the Roberson representative, is also running for re-election unopposed. She is the president-elect for the NC School Boards Association, and this will be her third term on our board. The other two races are contested, and all candidates provided statements for this column.

Owen District

The Owen district seat has the following three candidates.

Linda Tatsapaugh: "I am running to help guide our school system in providing a sound, equitable basic education to all students, particularly through increased emotional and behavioral supports for students, stronger recruitment, training and retention initiatives for educators, and effective efforts at closing the achievement gaps. I bring 30 years' experience developing and leading therapeutic and academic programs for special needs children, as

Four of the seven county Board of Education seats will appear on your ballot. If you live in Fairview, you will still be able to vote for representatives from the North Buncombe, Roberson, Owen and At-Large areas.

well as serving on numerous local and national boards." Learn more at lindafor-schoolboard.com.

Peggy Buchanan: "I am the incumbent in the Owen district and would like to remain on the board, especially during these unprecedented times. Having a knowledge of the background for making return-to-school decisions is critical in planning for our students. I have lived in Black Mountain for 40 years. My children and grandchildren have all attended Owen

district schools. I want to continue the high standard of education that exists in Black Mountain." Learn more via email at peg-jack@msn.com.

Everett D. Pittillo: "I have three children in Buncombe County Schools and feel that parents and staff need a voice to be heard. My top priorities are safety and economics—ensuring our children/staff are safe and driving a process to lessen the burden on our county taxpayers. I have two undergraduate degrees, one graduate degree, and a leadership certification. I have also been a proven a successful business manager throughout the years in WNC, working for various corporations." Learn more via email at igpitt1913@yahoo. com or Facebook (@everettdpittillo).

At-Large Seats

Donna Pate has chosen not to run for re-election for the at-large seat. There are two candidates.

Amanda Simpkins: "I'm a former Buncombe County Schools high school mathematics educator and long-time coach, Buncombe County Schools graduate and a mother of two BCS students. I love this county and am passionate about the importance of public education. I think it's critical to have people on the board who have a background in education and coaching, [who] have a parent

perspective, as well as those who are a product of the system they represent." Learn more via email at ElectAmanda-Simpkins@gmail.com or Facebook (@ ElectAmandaSimpkins).

Mark Watman: "As a retired teacher now working as a substitute teacher, I realized that at this point of my life, I could be doing more for our children as a policy maker on the board of education. My number one priority is to fix a major flaw in the school's crisis plan. In my more than 40 years of teaching, I have been deeply involved with programs that dealt with the same issues our schools are currently facing." Learn more at electwatman.com, via email at wat812@aol.com or Facebook (search for "Watman for Buncombe County School Board").

Make a plan to vote. Early voting begins at sites across the county on October 15. Election day will be November 3. Or if you prefer to avoid the lines, you can vote via absentee ballot, as I did. Visit BuncombeCounty.org, click on the Board of Elections link, and then choose "Absentee Ballot Request Form." However you do it, just vote!



Cindy McMahon is the Reynolds District Representative, Buncombe County School Board. Email her at cindy.mcmahon@bcsemail.edu.



COUNTY COMMISSIONER

anthonyfordistrict2.org * 828-230-0297

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Anthony Penland

Anthony Penland

Buncombe County is my life-long home. As a public servant for 30 years, I have taken risks for others and dedicated my life to the safety of our community. As Commissioner, I will continue the same level of dedication to your quality of life.

Holding on to Traditions

raditions have always been important to my family. Due to COVID-19, however, some of them have had to go out the window. Large gatherings like we may have had in the past have been put on hold. But that doesn't mean that we've abandoned them permanently or forgotten about them.

Traditions are important because they form memories with the people you love, and the act of doing them again, time after time, make those memories





stronger. I think the quarantine has made traditions more important than ever. Even though everything has felt like a total pit of despair lately, remembering the good times we have had with the people we love can give us a much-needed smile. And when this is over and we finally get to see them again and go back to what we used to do, it'll taste all the sweeter.

One of the things I miss the most has been my monthly dates with my Nona. She always picked me up on the last Monday of every month. We would grab dinner and play Uno and talk about what's been going on in our lives. We've

had to put these visits on hold for the most part. I really miss that time that I had set aside to spend with just her, even though it's for the best. But I know that being safe is preferable to one of us contracting the virus—and that's especially important with older people like her being at risk.

Keeping Some Traditions

Even though some of our traditions have been canceled, my immediate family is trying to hold onto others. About a week before Halloween, we always have a pumpkin-carving party. My sister and I help our dad make popcorn balls with M&Ms (my mom's favorite part). We get apple cider from Hickory Nut Gap Farm. We put on a Halloween music playlist and then carve our pumpkins together. My dad usually goes for something artsy and abstract, my sister likes putting animals on hers, and mine changes from year to year. We're all in an amazing mood, smiling and spending time together, and it's one of my favorite parts of October.

I hope that you are staying safe and healthy through all of this. I'm wishing you all a very happy spooky season.

Avery Love is a junior at A.C. Reynolds High School. She lives in Fairview with her mom, dad, and sister Zoe.

Cane Creek Middle PTA Needs Your Support

By Rob Elliot

"Every Child, One Voice"—that's the National PTA motto. In that spirit, the Cane Creek Middle School PTA is hard at work organizing community support to help meet the resource needs of the school community amid a challenging start to the year. Due to COVID-19, students returned to school this year fully online for the first six weeks, and we are grateful to the teachers, staff and community for supporting our students with a positive learning environment and support network. In late September, we are transitioning to a hybrid re-entry of students to in-person learning, while some families have chosen to continue remote learning through the end of the semester. The teachers and administration will be working extra hard to accommodate this hybrid approach and meet the needs of every student on a very limited budget.

Our PTA supports the school through advocacy and resource development. Every year, we raise funds for the school through a program called "Cash for Canes." Families, community members, and local businesses all chip in to help meet key financial goals that supply vital support to the school. The funds raised are primarily used to support teachers in the classroom

with needed resources, but they also support critical school functions, such as counseling programs and the school nurse's fund. As you can imagine, we need your support now more than

ever. We ask that you please consider donating to our annual fundraiser this year to support our teachers, students and administration.

Rob Elliot is in charge of advocacy and fundraising for the CCMA PTA.

How to Donate or Get more Information

- Online at our Facebook page (@CaneCreekMiddlePTA) or go to ccms.new.memberhub.store
- Email canecreekmiddlepta@ gmail.com
- Mail checks to CCMS PTA, 570 Lower Brush Creek Road, Fletcher, NC 28732. Checks should be made out to "CCMS PTA" and please note "Cash for Canes" on the memo line
- Call the school at 628-0824

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Title 1 Applications Help All FES Students

by Kenya Hoffart

Each year, the federal government grants money to schools through Title 1 funding, which is the largest federally-funded educational program in the US. Fairview Elementary has been fortunate enough to receive this funding the last several years, which we have used for literacy materials for classrooms, tutors to help students who qualify for extra support, small-group reading instructors who work with each grade level, technology programs, professional development and

resources for families. Title 1 funds benefit every student at Fairview Elementary.

In order for a school to qualify for Title 1 funding, a certain percentage of students must qualify for free or reduced lunches. This does not mean families

have to participate in the program, nor does it mean they will be singled out in any way, but each application helps the school earn dollars that help provide students with the tools they need to succeed. Fairview Elementary encourages every family to complete a free and

reduced lunch application at LunchApplication.com. Families who think there is no way they will qualify are asked to please complete the application anyway. Participation in this program is very important so that many of the programs offered to FES students may continue.

Families with multiple children need to complete just one application, and it will help all the schools those children attend.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

JOVEL VILLANUEVA AMAYA

It takes only a few minutes to complete the application online. Anyone who cannot complete the application online may call the school at 628-2732 so one can be mailed to you.

In addition to having a child who attends Fairview Elementary, Kenya Hoffart is also a staff member and PTA Communications Chair at the school.

The A.C. Reynolds Student of the Month is Jovel Villanueva Amaya. English Language Learner

Preschool Connections

Chris Lance has taught preschool for 44 years. She started the preschool at Asheville Christian Academy and taught there for 18 years, and she's been the lead teacher at Fairview Preschool (fairviewpreschool.org) for all of its 11 years.

One of Chris' students at Ashe-

ville Christian was Kindel Mathis, and now Kindel is a teacher at Fairview Preschool—and her daughter is one of the students!





specialist Colleen Marks nominated Jovel and praised his work ethic and kindness. "Jovel has only been in this country about three years. He had very little educational technology experience in his home country, Honduras. I know how hard he has struggled to keep up with his classes, especially when we went remote-only. He works full-time at a restaurant in downtown Asheville.

He is one of the nicest young men I have ever known and also is always helpful to other students who are new language learners. Jovel is a senior this year, and hopefully a mid-year graduate in December. I am proud of him beyond words."

All winners receive a special mug from the Town Crier. Congrats, Jovel!

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Backyard Chickens

e are all living through an unusual time. At our practice, we are seeing new cats and dogs being welcomed into families. There are also many people with more time at home and more kids at home who are looking to become more self-sufficient. Some people in the area have long family histories of keeping beef cattle or hogs. Homesteading is not a new trend in WNC, but there are some new chicken owners in the area.

Chickens can be fun to watch, and there are many beautiful breeds that lay different-colored eggs. Before you decide to start a backyard flock, there are some things to know.

They need daily attention and feeding and need to be protected from predators. It can also be more difficult to travel from home, as they are not easily sent to the kennel. There are also some common health considerations.

Most commercially raised chickens receive vaccines at the hatchery for Marek's disease and Newcastle disease. Production birds may get infectious bronchitis, Salmonella, fowlpox or fowl cholera vaccines as well. If you are getting chickens from local sources, they usually are not vaccinated. Vaccination of backyard poultry can be challenging, as many vaccines used in a commercial setting are not recommended. Small flocks are generally only vaccinated for Marek's or

fowlpox, as the risk of exposure is lower than in commercial flocks, and a more aggressive vaccination program may not be a realistic option for most owners.

Deciding whether to vaccinate against infectious diseases depends on the likelihood that your birds may become exposed to illness. If you have a closed flock where new birds are never introduced and the birds never leave the farm, the likelihood of catching many diseases is greatly reduced.

Vaccination should definitely be considered if you plan to take birds to bird shows; buy birds from hatcheries, bird auctions, and other sources to add to an existing flock; or if you have had disease problems in the past.

As far as the USDA is concerned, there is no difference between commercial production chickens and your backyard birds. There are many drugs that are not allowed in food animals. There are also necessary withdrawal times with some medication use before eggs or meat can safely be eaten by humans. Please follow labeled instructions for any over-the-counter medications you use. If a veterinarian is providing care, consult with them about the medications being used. While some medications are allowed for off-label use, there are others that are legally prohibited.

Poultry can have internal parasites, which can often be seen on a fecal exam. Some parasites don't cause problems and don't always require treatment. Dewormers should





Some Fairview chickens: Sunshine the rooster and hens Moonlit and Tiny.

be used judiciously, as there are no dewormers approved for use in laying hens.

Common external parasites include lice and mites. Improved husbandry—including dust baths—can help control these, and pesticides should be used with caution. Always follow labeled instructions and mind withdrawal periods before eating any eggs.

If you have a sick chicken, it can be important to know where it is from, if other chickens are sick, and whether it has been vaccinated. Many health problems are related to reproduction, so pay attention to your hen's laying history. Bloodwork and X-rays may be needed for a diagnosis of the problem.

We are lucky to be close to the WNC Diagnostic Laboratory. If you have a bird that has died, they can perform a necropsy and additional testing that may help in the care of your other birds.

There are many resources to help chicken owners care for their birds, including NC State's Poultry Extension and Backyard magazine. See fairviewtowncrier.com/links for links to those websites. The University of Maryland Extension, University of Georgia, and the University of Missouri also have good websites with information about housing, nutrition, and diseases.

Raising chickens can be fun and rewarding, but it also carries the responsibility of livestock ownership. Educating yourself about your chickens' care is an important step in a healthy relationship. Bwack bwack!

Sarah Hargrove is a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at Cedar Ridge Animal Hospital.

Need a place to safely store your RV, boat, or trailer?



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(site of Fairview Landscaping)

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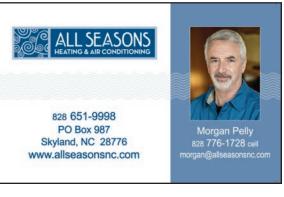
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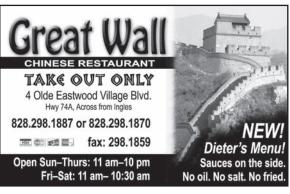
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Support Your Local Library

by Vicky Ballard

I was heartened recently to hear that most Americans still trust and value their public libraries. As a researcher, I immediately went to Google to verify that claim. Unfortunately, I couldn't find any recent supporting data, but these are challenging times and we all need good news. I decided I would simply believe this is true. Who doesn't love the library?

First, of course, are the books. Rows and rows of books, all there for the taking—borrowing actually; please return your library books. In addition, there is music—CDs in every imaginable category—movies on DVD, audio books, large print books, magazines, newspapers, electronic resources, books and movies for kids, research materials, free internet access and computers for public use, and Wi-Fi hotspots. And, of course, friendly, helpful, and knowledgeable librarians.

There is also the programming. Fairview's library offers a wide array of programs for children and adults. Preschool story times are held several days a week in order to offer stories and activities for children of different ages. Clubs and programs encourage and support the interests of school-age kids, with activities ranging from LEGOs to art. The summer reading program is filled with special performers, events, and projects. Adult and family events include authors and musicians, as well as



Libraries need additional support for special programming and services that help make them vital to the community. In Fairview, that support is provided by the Friends of Fairview Library.

presentations by experts in a variety of fields.

Libraries are civic institutions supported by the local government. Library staff, buildings, collections, and equipment are subsidized by the Buncombe County government. But libraries need additional support to present the special programming and services that help make them vital to the community. In Fairview, that support is provided by the Friends of Fairview Library.

The Friends group provides volunteer and financial support for library programming and special events. It helps cover the cost of materials and pays for speakers, educators, and performers for programs. It provides

refreshments for events and offers financial assistance for special library needs and functions. The funds come from donations, proceeds from the sale of tote bags, book sales, and memberships.

Ah, memberships. (You knew there was a catch.)

Despite closing to the public in March, Fairview Library continued to offer programming and services supported by the Friends of Fairview Library. Classes were moved online. Working with community organizations, free books were donated to children who suddenly had no access to either school or public libraries. An outdoor storywalk was set up for parents and children. Our group's members, in concert with the library staff, are currently designing a schedule of new programs for online presentation. And we need your help.

Perhaps you were not aware of our group and the work we do. Maybe your membership lapsed and you haven't gotten around to renewing it. Or maybe it is one of those things you keep meaning to do. But now is the time.

As so many people struggle to take care of their families during this crisis, the library is more important than ever. The Friends of Fairview Library are committed to providing the financial and volunteer support needed to help our community now and in the days to come. A family membership is \$20. Please join us if you can. For more information, email fairviewlibraryfriends@gmail. com or call 273-6236.

Vicky Ballard is the treasurer of the Friends of Fairview Library.

BUSINESS BRIEFS









Shelby Emerson has opened **To the Brim: Refill Store** at 145 Charlotte Highway, Suite 60 (top two photos at left) in the new strip mall next to Kounty Line. If you'd like to cut back on single-use plastics, you can find refills for natural shampoo, body and face washes, laundry detergent, dish soap, and hand soap. You can get as much as you want–charge is by the ounce, minus the container so you can start with a small amount to determine if the product is to your liking.

There are other plastic-alternative products as well, such as deodorants in cardboard tubes, toothpaste tablets, metal straws, reusable produce bags, sponges, bar soap, lip balm and more. You can find the store on Facebook (@tothebrimrefill) and get more information at 674.3438 or tothebrimrefill@gmail.com. Hours are Tuesday to Saturday, 10 am-6 pm, and Sunday 12-4 pm.

Sheila Padgett had been using her space in part of the Upper Hickory Nut Gorge Community Center as studio space. Recently, she added a coffee counter, and **Studio 74-A** is now open for business. At the coffee counter, which is called Carhop Coffee, you'll find several blends from Gerton Grounds, including decaf. She'll bring it out to you or you can come in to sip and shop.

In addition to coffee, the shop offers local pottery, hand-crafted jewelry, honey from a beekeeper in Lake Lure, local beef jerky, handmade Christmas ornaments, soaps and candles, gift baskets, muffins, gluten-free snacks and other hot or cold drinks. Due to COVID regulations, only five people are allowed in the store at one time, and masks are available for anyone who needs one. You can contact the store at

Due to COVID regulations, only five people are allowed in the store at one time, and masks are available for anyone who needs one. You can contact the store at 290-4813 and mystudio74a@gmail.com. Hours are weekends only: Friday 10 am until late afternoon, Saturday 10 am to 5 pm, and Sunday 11 am to 5 pm. 4730 Gerton Highway (in the Upper Hickory Nut Gorge Community Center) in Gerton.





T&L Utilities and H&H Distilleries, has been named a finalist for Contractor of the Year by *Equipment World* magazine.

Along with his brother, Pat Howard of TP Howard, he is a big supporter of AC Reynolds sports programs and other local efforts. Congratulations, Wendell!



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Avoid Financial Mistakes During Retirement

hen you retire, you've learned a lot about all sorts of things, helping you avoid some of the mistakes you made earlier in life. However, you may still be susceptible to financial missteps specifically related to your retirement years. How can you dodge these errors?

Consider these suggestions:

Manage your withdrawal rate carefully. You will likely need to tap into your retirement accounts—your IRA and 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan. But you should establish an annual withdrawal rate that's appropriate for your situation. By withdrawing too much each year, especially in the early years of your retirement, you risk outliving your resources. You may want to consult with a financial professional to determine the withdrawal amount that's right for you. (Keep in mind, though, that once you turn 72, you will be required to take out at least a certain amount each year—based on your age and account balance—from your traditional IRA and 401(k) or similar plan.)

Don't underestimate health care costs. Once you turn 65, you will be eligible for Medicare, but you may still need a Medicare supplement plan and will probably also incur other expenses. In fact, A healthy 65-year-old couple who retired in 2019 will need nearly \$390,000 over their remaining years just to pay

for health care, according to HealthView Services, which produces health-care cost projection software. Other estimates show different amounts, but they all amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars. So, when calculating your expenses during your retirement years, reserve a big space for health care.

Don't take Social Security too early. You can start receiving monthly Social Security checks when you reach age 62, but your payments will generally be significantly larger if you wait until your "full" retirement age, which will probably be between 66 and 67. (The size of your payments will "max out" at age 70.) Of course, if you need the money at 62, you may have to take it, but if you believe you have longevity working in your favor, and you can afford to wait, you may be better off by delaying Social Security as long as possible.)

Don't invest too conservatively. Once you're retired, you might think that you should take as few chances as possible with your investments—after all, you simply have less time for them to bounce back from a downturn than you did during your working years. Nonetheless, it's important to own a reasonable percentage of growth-oriented investments to help keep you ahead of inflation. Even at a low rate, which we've experience recently, inflation can erode your purchasing power over time.

Don't be more generous than you can afford. If you have grown children who need financial help, or grandchildren heading to college someday, you'd no doubt like to do whatever you can to provide assistance. However, the hard truth is they simply have more time than you do to find workable financial solutions, whereas if you deplete your funds through your generosity, you could put yourself in a precarious position. So, be as giving as you can afford—but don't go beyond that. By preserving your financial

independence, you'll end up benefiting your family, as well.

Retirement can be a wonderful time of your life—and you may enjoy it more by doing what you can to avoid costly financial mistakes.



This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor, Stephen Herbert. Contact 628-1546 or stephen. herbert@edwardjones.com.

AUGUST FAIRVIEW REAL ESTATE STATISTICS

		Max \$	Lowest \$	Average \$
Homes Listed	18	2,950,000	229,900	794,639
Homes Sold	40	1,300,000	135,000	506,595
Land Listed	8	369,500	25,000	84,188
Land Sold	9	350,000	29,100	169,844

Cool Mountain Realty provides the monthly real estate stats for the Fairview area (zip 28730). When selecting a real estate company, remember to shop local. Cool Mountain Realty has been in Fairview for 13 years and our agents have been selling in our area for 33 years. Keep and multiply the dollars in your local community's economy.









Allocating Cares Act Funding

he North Carolina General Assembly (GA) re-convened on September 2 and adjourned the next day. The agenda was to allocate the remaining federal Cares Act funding regarding Coronavirus dislocations. There was \$900 million to allocate.

One challenge concerning this money is that it has to be spent before the end of 2020—think about Cinderella as the clock ticks toward midnight. There was money allocated in a previous bill to government functions such as the Department of Transportation (\$300 million), with the hope that the federal government would open up these areas, but that never occurred. There was also hope that there would be a second Cares Act from Washington, but that did not happen either.

Governor Cooper weighed in first with a spending plan. He began by once again advocating for Medicaid Expansion, a program that would bring health insurance to over 600,000 North Carolinians at no cost to our state government. Thirty-eight states, both red and blue, have taken advantage of it and have seen uninsured rates decline, actual insurance rates decline and rural hospital closures decline. Our state has already left billions of our tax dollars on the table with multiple "Cinderella midnight" moments.

A second glaring problem is NC's

unemployment program, which is the stingiest in the country. The Cooper proposal upped the maximum benefit to \$500 per week and the maximum number of weeks from 12 to 24. He asked for teacher bonus payments, COVID supply funds, broadband expansion and rental/ utility relief for struggling families. He also asked that NC take advantage of historically low interest rates to pass a bond to fund school construction, sewer and water infrastructure and affordable housing.

The Corona Bill

The actual Corona bill (HB 1105) was crafted in a series of meetings by the GOP majority and presented to the GA on September 2. The biggest budget item was the "Extra Credit Grant Program" (\$440+ million), designed to send \$335 to every family with at least one child to ostensibly help with educational expenses. It has the advantage of getting money out of the NC Treasury quickly. The Unemployment Insurance was increased by \$50 per week. There was broadband money to create hotspots for school children and money to subsidize broadband expansion. And there were various funds to pay for PPE supplies and to support vaccine development at Duke University.

The state agriculture department was allocated money for dairy farmers (\$2

million), small meat processors (\$10+ million), and the Raleigh and WNC fairs, both cancelled for 2020 (\$1 million). There was also money for child care, as in many cases it is a barrier to returning to work.

Recognizing the toll on mental health, behavioral health received \$38 million. There was emergency money for food assistance, including food banks, and school nutrition programs. Job retention received \$45 million, and \$20 million went to providing COVID health care assistance for the uninsured. State arts institutions unable to perform, such as the symphony and the ballet troupe, received funds. One of my favorite allocations included \$2.1 million for state parks and trails, which have been heavily visited during the pandemic. Finally, there are many dollars going to specific institutions that some would call "porky," but I am sure they could be defended. I voted for the budget, and the governor signed it into law.

HB 1105

In the interest of explaining how the sausage is made in Raleigh, HB 1105 was originally a "broadband expansion bill" that I cosponsored. It passed the House unanimously on June 22 and was sent to the Senate, where it languished in the Senate Rules Committee. Then magically it was transformed into the totally new Coronavirus Relief bill. Since HB 1105 had already passed the House (although with a completely different intent and language),

legislators on September 3 could only vote "to concur or not to concur." That cut off any amendments and short-circuited the legislative process.

End of the Session

On September 3, the House and Senate adjourned "Sine Die," which means the official end of the 2019–2020 session. There is actually a little ceremony that takes place, in which a handkerchief is dropped from the dais (the symbolism escapes me). Everyone stands in a line, and then the big golden doors are dramatically swung open so that House and Senate are sort of united in a show of elation that it is finally over. It was understood that we would not be called back to Raleigh unless the federal government passed an additional COVID relief bill.

One of the most consequential elections in American history will take place in November, and I would like to urge everyone to vote. I hate that the mailers, TV ads and robocalls dominate our elections, but you should be able to wade through that swamp to find candidates to vote for. I am optimistic about the future of America, but it takes everyone to participate and make us strong together.



Rep. John Ager, District 115 North Carolina House of Representatives. Contact him at john.ager@ncleg.net or 713-6450.









Cravings from that Time of the Month

oday's column is for all the ladies out there. We are going to discuss that "once a month" time when many of us experience intense cravings.

First, though, I'll provide a little bit of background. The status of your menstrual cycle tells you a lot about your health. Your body's willingness to reproduce can act as a signal about your health status. Fortunately, adopting and implementing a healthy diet that incorporates whole foods, plenty of healthy fats, and reduced sugar supports improved menstrual and reproductive hormone regularity and/or ovulation rates.

Insulin resistance, which commonly accompanies high insulin levels and obesity, is frequently associated with Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS). This is one of the leading causes of female infertility and a frequent cause of menstrual irregularity. One of the main reasons to become fat-adapted and create a metabolic shift is that reducing insulin production supports those struggling with PCOS and oftentimes reverses the associated conditions.

Let's say you have adopted a healthy lifestyle, are maintaining (or working to achieve) a healthy body composition, and as a result, are improving or supporting your reproductive health. Now, how do you manage those "trustworthy" PMS

side effects that, for some of us, accompany a healthy menstrual cycle? Those increased cravings and hunger pains that pop back up out of the blue? Why do you get these feelings? Are they real? What should you do about them?

The "Why"

Serotonin levels decrease during menstruation. Carbohydrates (through increasing insulin) increase the availability of tryptophan. Tryptophan works to help the body produce more serotonin. The cascade goes like this: 1) low serotonin during menstrual cycle; 2) craving carbs; 3) carbs spike insulin; 4) insulin assists in making tryptophan; 5) tryptophan helps to make serotonin; 6) your low serotonin supply is fixed. If you experience increased cravings during this time, they can be physiologically real and normal.

What You Should Do

Understanding that these cravings aren't just a figment of your imagination is helpful. They are real and normal, and if you've had these feelings commonly in the past, they might continue. Despite this, it isn't time to give into how those cravings normally manifest (think pizza, chips, muffins, cookies, etc.). You should be proactive from

It's not just your imagination. Be proactive when those pizza cravings hit.

a hunger standpoint. If you're not eating a mid-morning snack, consider adding it in. If you've dropped your carbohydrate intake significantly, perhaps bring that back up slightly (while avoiding your known trigger foods) for a few days when your body physiologically needs it. Maybe a few more "starchier" veggies?

Don't skimp on your dietary fat. Remember that fat makes you feel full and satiated. Bump up your dietary fat intake from sources such as full-fat salad dressings, whole eggs if you like them, full-fat dairy if you tolerate it, extra virgin olive oil, fatty fish or meats depending on your preference, and nuts and seeds. A small snack after dinner? It's okay once in a while if your body is truly hungry. You should also consider natural ways to boost serotonin, such as moving 30 minutes every day, getting out in nature, meditating, and practicing gratitude.

Lastly, this "time of the month" is a good time to practice awareness of sensations and

feelings. If you have a craving, practice techniques to help you overcome those. If you don't usually have cravings otherwise and they seem to present on a monthly schedule, it is a sign that your nutrition is in a very good place. If cravings are like monthly clockwork and your body tells you that you are hungry, listen to it and eat. If you have cravings all of the time, however, this is not normal; you shouldn't have to suffer in this way. Daily cravings and hunger mean something is off with your metabolism and your nutrition. If this is the case, consider seeking support to help get your body moving in a different, more comfortable direction.



Ashley Lucas, who lives in Fletcher, has a PH.D. in nutrition and is a Registered Dietitian. Her company, PHD

Weight Loss and Nutrition, is located at 1833 Hendersonville Road, Suite 170. 552-3333 or myphdweightloss.com.





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by Candi Yount

Our September meeting was held at The Poplars at Bearwallow Mountain in Gerton, a new and impressive wedding and event center. Diana Soll, our president, presided over the meeting. All attendees had the opportunity to briefly introduce themselves and share any items of interest.

Our hosts, Alan and Annie MacNair, presented members with a beautiful scene, as we enjoyed the panoramic views from the large deck of the original family home that sits perfectly on the Continental Divide. In fact, it runs through the living room.

This venue includes two separate homes and a 1,600-square-foot, covered pavilion that can be used for events (and even pickle ball). One home sleeps 14, and the newest home sleeps 16. The common areas are cheerful, tasteful and offer ample room.

A big plus to the enjoyment of this 75-acre spread is the ability to go right out the door and connect readily to a new hiking trail system being constructed that connects to nearby nature preserve properties.

Meeting Updates

We now have 107 members, and new businesses may join in the next few months.

Stacy Martin of Tranquil Blossom Reiki is now offering Reiki sessions at your home, as well as at the Unified Therapies office. All

Welcome, NEW MEMBERS!

Parker Utter, Insurance Service of Asheville

Legacy Land Consulting

To the Brim: Refill Store

Turgua Brewing Company

sessions follow COVID-19 regulations.

Rocket Grill has permanently closed. Both Katie and Dennis Curtis send their sincere appreciation to the FBA and best wishes to all the wonderful businesses in Fairview. The space may be available for lease. If interested, contact Earl Johnson or Kim Young at the Kounty Line Shell Convenience Store (298-4889).

October Meeting

This month, we'll meet on Monday, October 5 from 6–8 pm at To the Brim: Refill Store, 145 Charlotte Higway, Suite 60, Asheville (near Unified Therapies) Owner Shelby Emerson will be our host. See page 23 for more information on her store.

Bring your nametag, a "What's New" blurb to announce, a chair and an appetizer. They have a large room, and we will be able to socially distance with your masks on.

Candi Yount is the secretary of the FBA.



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Tammy Murphy Agency	299-4522	Fairview Animal Hospital Wellness/Healing	020-0001
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Nature's Web of Reciprocity

Weaver hangs
maypop seeds from
cherry trees,
designs tapestries of mycelium
whispering strawberry longings
to the earth.
Listen,
reciprocity
is not an enigma
It is life.

earning from nature, we see that reciprocity exists as a mechanism for equilibrium within the ecological web. Balance exists in the rhythms of seasons, cycles of nutrients and water, and in symbiotic relationships that reveal obvious and mysterious interconnections between organisms.

One of Root Cause Farm's summer interns, Julia Weber, says reciprocity is like "playing outside without shoes on and having no fear to do that, knowing that I could trust my body. This is a very visceral and individual understanding of reciprocity. I think of body to body. Earth body, human body. Give and take comes to mind as well, but I've been trying to get out of the dualistic thinking of everything. Who teaches us about reciprocity? "The land," she says.

One example of this is in a perennial corner of Root Cause Farm, where young



strawberry plants are huddled together in straw-filled beds beneath a young cherry tree that uplifts a maypop vine with her dangling green fruits. Banner Greenhouses in Nebo, NC donated the strawberry plants. They regularly share their bounty with us and are essential to our growing process. Myco Rhizing, a mushroom farm in Fairview, taught us how to inoculate straw with oyster mushrooms. The straw is teeming with fungal strands (hyphae), which help the plants access nutrients necessary for survival. The fungi receive food from the sugars, proteins and enzymes produced by the strawberry roots. They dance in a spirit of reciprocity. It is a form of mutual aid that fosters relationships in order to build individual strength.

Humans and many animals have evolved through cooperative strategies. Ants of the same nest "greet" each other, and if one is



hungry or thirsty, the other will share their food with them. The ant's digestive tract is physiologically designed for mutual aid, with one tube for the individual and the other for the community. Tending land collaboratively and regeneratively is an age-old effort toward mutual aid because the land is the quintessential giver, offering food, shelter, energy and medicine.

Robin Wall Kimmerer, member of Citizen Potawatomi Nation, an environmental scientist, and an author, speaks to the power of reciprocity and gratitude. She writes that "gratitude may seem like weak tea given the desperate challenges that lie before us, but it is powerful medicine, much more than a simple thank you. Giving thanks implies recognition not only of the gift, but of the giver."

Gratitude and listening teaches us that we are dependent on the land and others in



order to survive. As we look around, asking "What can I give back?", Karen Washington, co-founder of Black Urban Growers (BUGS) and Rise & Root Farm, invites us to not give a handout but to give a hand in. "Share your power. Share your resources," she says. Power is intrinsically linked to responsibility and personal niche within the community web.

Come work with us in the garden if you want to give a hand in. We have volunteer opportunities Wednesday evenings from 6 to 8 pm and Thursdays and Fridays from 8 am to 12 pm. Email programs@root-causefarm.com to sign up in advance. We practice hand washing, social distancing and wearing masks to keep us all safe.

Hayley Booterbaugh is an intern at Root Cause Farm. rootcausefarm.org.





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Spiderwort

utumn is upon us, despite all the changes in our lives coping with an ongoing pandemic and having so much extra time on our hands. What is curious is how, simultaneously, I seem to have much more time for noticing new wonders and delights in the natural world and opening the door to new discoveries.

For many decades, I've known about the plant called spiderwort (Tradescantia virginiana). It is a prolific perennial flower that loves shade and blooms in the spring, with a few extra bloom periods throughout the growing season. It also naturalizes everywhere, as I have found it high up in the mountains, in the middle of deep-forested areas, and in the understory of the woods, where I'm always surprised to see one of its unusual purple blossoms sprouting out of a carpet of native plants.

At our home, we have several big clumps growing under a giant sycamore tree and a dozen or more hybrids that have stunning, canary-yellow leaves that provide a dramatic contrast to the bright-purple blossoms. This variety doesn't spread. I always caution people about taking cuttings of wild varieties, as they spread fast and can be invasive.

For many years, I assumed it was poisonous, but in fact, the flowers, young shoots and roots are edible. The flowers make a great addition to salads and as

decorations. and the young shoots are a nice cooked green, prepared like asparagus. I have yet to eat the roots but have heard good reports on them as well. And because they are so prolific.

they are valuable assets to wild foragers.

Edible and Medicinal Uses

One unusual aspect of this plant is that one can harvest it throughout the growing season. The leaves stay fresh, as do the flowers and shoots. Most wild edibles have specific seasons. However, I do have a little warning to those folks who, like me, have an aversion to slimy things. The raw leaves, as with purslane, can be somewhat moist and sticky, so my preference is to use them in soups, where the slime blends in.

Spiderwort also has medicinal uses. The crushed leaves are useful for insect bites, and a tea made of the boiled roots serves as a good laxative.

In my research, I found one unusual





Spiderwort is a prolific perennial flower that loves shade and blooms in the spring, with a few extra bloom periods throughout the growing

If you grow some spiderwort, you can have your own personal Geiger counter!

Nature is amazing, as there is an endless amount of joy, beauty, and knowledge contained within the diverse realms of plants, mushrooms, and trees that inhabit our mountain forests, fields, and backyard gardens. Even though humans have been around for thousands of years, we still have much to learn from the natural world around us.



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tidbit of information about the common

handy if you think you may have radiation

small stamen hairs on the flower are bioas-

says for radiation levels. The hairs are blue

but turn pink when exposed to radiation.

spiderwort flowers. This will come in

in your neighborhood. Apparently, the

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Headwater Streams and Watersheds

ave you ever looked at a river and wondered where all that water came from, how it got here or what kind of places it has seen? The water in rivers originates in headwater streams, which are generally defined as where the source of a river begins or the furthest point from the end of the river. Headwaters can form in many different geographical areas, such as mountains, springs, marshes and even glaciers. Since we're in WNC, let's talk about mountain headwaters.

Water for a river can begin in a few places through the process of evaporation (from liquid bodies), transpiration (from plants and animals) and sublimation (from ice or snow). These form clouds that eventually become too dense and have to drop all of their water in the form of precipitation. Clouds will commonly drop their rainwater when meeting a mountain face, as the increase in elevation makes the clouds denser from a rise in height and drop in temperature. As rainwater falls on the top of these mountains, much of it bounces off of rocks, trees and leaves and remains on the surface, while a small amount makes it underground (or turns into groundwater). Some makes it so far down that it becomes part of an underground aquifer. Once the water is on the ground, where does it go?

Rivers, streams and creeks are like roots



for trees or veins for humans—they carry energy. Just like energy, water is always trying to find the path of least resistance. Assisted by gravity, slopes and many other small factors along the way, freshly fallen water will begin to accumulate in small crevices along mountainsides, forming our first headwater streams. They form all over the mountain, starting off as little trickles of water. Eventually, these accumulate more water as they run toward a valley, trickling into other trickles and forming a stream. And remember the water that made it underground? That provides a constant flow for the stream through seepage. Those streams crash into other streams until the once-gentle stream flows into a roaring river.

Altogether, these headwater streams, creeks and rivers form what is called a

watershed. This is where all of the streams and rivers drain to a common outlet, which can be the ocean, a swamp, a lake or a small pond. It all depends on the scale at which you examine water flow. Watersheds can be as small as a footprint or span much of the East Coast.

The Asheville and PHOTO: TRAVIS BORDLEY/SAHC Fairview area sits

> between two predominant watersheds that are separated by the Eastern Continental Divide. Have you ever driven from Fairview to Chimney Rock and wondered what the sign marking this divide is about? If water falls on the western side of the divide, it will eventually flow into the Tennessee watershed and then to the Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico. Water falling on the eastern side will eventually run to the Atlantic Ocean.

For the Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy (SAHC), protecting headwaters is an important aspect of our conservation work. Even though headwaters are small, they are one of the most important parts. In fact, headwaters make up half of the total river miles in the United States. Since headwaters are so small and abundant, it is

easy for them to become blocked, destroyed or polluted due to human activity. The water for our rivers begins here, and if headwaters are polluted or tampered with, this affects the overall health of the water downstream for everyone.

SAHC takes steps to help protect headwater streams in the following ways:

- By permanently protecting the land (conservation easements or preserves) where headwaters begin and flow, we can guarantee that the streams won't be polluted or impacted by sediment from development.
- By working with farmers in our farmland conservation program, we can help encourage agricultural best management practices, such as fencing and off-stream watering systems that help keep cattle out of streams.
- During certain events, volunteers clean up streams and remove debris to help improve the water quality from the headwater all the way down to the estuary.

Even though we are located in the mountains and have access to clean water, it's our responsibility to keep it clean and be fair to those who live downstream from us.

If you're curious to learn more about headwaters and watersheds, explore the links at fairviewtowncrier.com/links.

Shaylyn "Sarge" Sargent is an AmeriCorps Project Conserve member serving in Conservation Education and Volunteer Outreach with the Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy. Appalachian.org.





PUBLIC SAFETY LARRY PIERSON

Serial Numbers and Crime

tolen property has been an issue since there was property available to be stolen. When we all work together, we have a much bigger impact on preventing and solving crimes. When initially investigating property crimes, deputies will ask for the make, model, serial number and other identifying marks of an item. Quite frequently, the victim doesn't know the serial number. This is frustrating for the deputies who want to find the person who committed the crime and return your property.

How Serial Numbers Help

Let's take weedeaters or string trimmers, for example. There are millions of these products sold every year. If your weedeater is stolen and all you can remember is the make, it's one in a thousand, at least. But if you have the serial number, it's the only one.

If a criminal takes a stolen 60" TV to the pawnshop, they have to present their identification during the transaction. The shop records the make, model and serial number. The serial number is entered into a system called Leads Online, and if that number is reported as stolen, the officers have a lead and an ID.

As a last example, imagine a detective has been tracking stolen chainsaws. He gets a search warrant for a shipping container, and as suspected finds 127 stolen Stihl



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chainsaws inside. Fifteen people entered their serial numbers on incident reports, and they all get their chainsaws back. The other 112 chainsaws will be almost impossible to return to owners without other specific identifying marks. That serial number helps us connect a criminal to your crime.

Do Your Part

Start simply. Take photos of the item and serial number tag. Write the make, model and serial number on a pad, start a Google spreadsheet or even start a free account on reportit.leadsonline.com.

Most importantly, start right now. Let thieves know that in Buncombe County, we record serial numbers and we will connect you to the crime.



Sergeant Larry Pierson works for the Buncombe County Sheriff's Office. Contact the Crime Prevention office at

Check Your Data and Dinosaurs

house millions of years ago? You can find out at dinosaurpictures. org by clicking on the link to their interactive globe of ancient Earth. Be prepared for changes in water levels and locations.

Time for a New Browser

Internet Explorer 11 is finally going out of support next year, but it's dropping out of Microsoft Teams support next month. Some of you may still use IE 11 because you are used to it or you have sites that seem to work best in the browser. It is time to switch to Microsoft Edge, Chrome, Firefox, Opera, Vivaldi or any browser based on Chromium from Google.

Alert Alexa

If you have a digital voice assistant, such as Alexa, you may want to tell it to delete conversations on a regular basis. Saying "Alexa, delete everything I said today," should take care of it—but you have to find the buried setting: open Alexa on your phone and go to Settings, Alexa Account, Alexa Privacy, and Review Voice History. Toggle to "Enable deletion by voice" and start a daily habit. Other assistants have abilities like this, but they are buried or enabled with different methods.

Likewise, you should download and check the data (and settings) you have posted on social media platforms such

as Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and Snapchat. I would include Google as another place to check. As each service has different ways to do this, the best advice is to access the site's help section and search for some variation of "download archive" or "download settings." It may seem intimidating, but it is good to know what details of your life each service is keeping.

Save Your Snapshots

Smartphone photos must be backed up if they have value to you. You can backup online (for \$2–\$3 a month) or to your computer. Check that your backups are actually being backed up. Many online services have a way for you to see what is stored on their sites. If you transfer photos to your own computer, make sure they are backed up to an external hard drive, for example.

An intriguing news comparison site, Ground News, helps check and adjust news sources to burst news bubbles and counter biases, or to see how reporting changes over time. For their full suite of features, you need to subscribe, but you can start to explore what they offer at web.ground.news.



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FOR SENIORS MIKE RICHARD

Batten Down for AEP

y the time you read this, we will be in the eye of a category 5 advertising storm of insurance companies hawking their plans during the Annual Election Period (AEP). As you may know, the AEP starts October 15 and ends on December 7, and the companies are hungry for your business. It certainly can be an intimidating and confusing process.

The Annual Notice of Change (ANOC) is the best place to start for those with Medicare Advantage and/or prescription drug plans. (Medicare supplement plans don't have an ANOC.) Plan benefits and premiums are subject to change every year, and your company is obliged by Medicare to inform you of any changes by October 1. So, I'll provide my annual reminder: Open and read your ANOC.

On the first few pages, you can find a side-by-side comparison of your plan's current benefits and next year's benefits. If you're happy with what you have, if your doctors still participate, and if your prescriptions are covered and reasonably priced, then keep your plan. You will be automatically enrolled for the next year.

If you want more benefits, check in-house with your current provider first. Most companies offer two or more plans, and sometimes a few dollars more can give you the extra benefits you're looking for with a company you already trust. Every plan may have different networks of healthcare providers and drug formularies, so benefits and premiums aren't the only considerations when changing.

Let's face it: some people just like to shop. It's certainly the reason why you see so many ads coming from every direction and touting a plethora of attractive benefits. Companies vying for your business will seek a competitive edge in a crowded marketplace by filling their plans with dental, vision, hearing, fitness, and other ancillary benefits. There's nothing wrong with that; after all, I'm enjoying a new Fitbit courtesy of my plan to help with my fitness program.

You may need to change plans, however. For example, if you're in need of dental coverage that your current plan doesn't have, then switching to another plan with that coverage may make sense. If you do need to change plans and are unable to, talk to an agent who can help you compare plans and facilitate enrollment, call the company or Medicare directly, or enroll through Medicare's website.



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Submissions Announcements, community news, upcoming events, etc. will be published free as space allows. Send a SASE if you would like your photo returned. Articles submitted must have content and tone consistent with the Crier's editorial policy. All submissions will be edited for clarity, style, and length. Materials must be received by the 10th of the month preceding publication. Include name and phone number. Unsolicited manuscripts/photos are welcomed, and will be returned if a SASE is included. Anonymous submissions will not be published. The Crier reserves the right to reject editorial or advertising it deems unfit for publication.

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Locations of hidden Halloween icons

Hat, 21. Pumpkin, 30. Mummy, 19. Candy corn, 7. Skull and crossbones, 27. Ghost, 2. Spider, 29. Bats, 23. Frankenstein, 12. Cat, 3. Illustrations via flaticon.com

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